



NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

FORMER LEE'S SUMMIT BUSINESS OWNER PLEADS GUILTY IN PENSION FUND EMBEZZLEMENT

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a former Lee's Summit, Mo., business owner pleaded guilty in federal court today to failing to file pension plan reports in an effort to cover up his embezzlement of pension funds.

Christopher G. Andrew, 42, of Lee's Summit, pleaded guilty before U.S. Chief Magistrate Judge John T. Maughmer this morning to a charge contained in an indictment returned by a federal grand jury in Kansas City on May 19, 2004. **Andrew** is the former co-owner and president of Andrew Technology, Inc., a Lee's Summit company providing computer programming services and specializing in software systems analysis and design.

Andrew, the plan administrator for the company's 401(k) retirement plan, admitted that he failed to file the annual report for the 401(k) plan for the calendar year 2001, as required by federal law. In 2001, Graves explained, **Andrew** caused employee withholding for retirement to be withheld from paychecks of employees, but did not forward all of the withholding to Sterling Trust Company, the directed trustee/custodian of retirement funds. Instead, Graves said, **Andrew** embezzled \$24,593 for his own use and for other purposes. **Andrew** admitted that he failed to file the report in order to avoid reporting his failure to forward employee contributions to the plan between Oct. 1, 2001, and June 30, 2002.

By pleading guilty, **Andrew** also acknowledged that other criminal conduct charged in the federal indictment should be considered by the court as relevant conduct for the purpose of sentencing. **Andrew** admitted that he embezzled \$24,593 by stealing employee contributions to the plan, and that he also failed to file the mandatory annual report for the calendar year 2002.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney J. Daniel Stewart. It was investigated by the Employee Benefits Security Administration of the Department of Labor.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at

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